UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
THOMAS, ASHISH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
 Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _08 August 2008_.
2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-18_ is/are pending in the application.
     4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) _1-18_ is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
     a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
       1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
       2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
       3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)
1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments filed on 8/8/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In page 6, lines 16-28 of the remarks, the Applicant argues that the Young reference does not teach "assigning a telephone number to a printer." The Applicant concedes that a phone number is associated to a printer, but not directly assigned to the printer.

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant. The act of associating a phone number to a printer can be categorized as a type of assignment. After all, associating the phone number will result in the print job being printed at the printer. A direct assignment essentially achieves the same result. Please note that the claim language itself fails to distinguish between associating a phone number and assigning a phone number. In view of this, the Examiner reasonably believes that the Young reference reads on the concept of assigning a phone number.

In page 7, lines 1-8 of the remarks, the Applicant contends that Young does not teach "associating a print job with said telephone number." The Applicant states that the "the fax is associated not to a telephone number but to a URL."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. The fax job is initially sent to a telephone number(Young, Abstract). To the Examiner, that act reads on associating the fax job with a telephone number. Note that the fax job is not initially associated to a

URL, rather the sender of the fax puts in the telephone number first so that the job is transmitted to the appropriate telephone network(Young, column 3, lines 5-10).

In page 7, lines 9-17 and page 7, lines 26-31 of the remarks, the Applicant asserts that Young does not teach the concept of "forwarding said print job from a print job source to a spooling server over a network." The Applicant states that service provider 110 cannot be equated to a spooling server.

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant on this issue as well. The claim limitations fail to further describe the functionalities of the spooling server. In view of this, the Examiner is interpreting the spooling server as an intermediary that receives a fax job and directs it to the appropriate output destination. The service provider 110 can be reasonably classified as such an intermediary since the fax job is initially received at the service provider 110, and the service provider 110 then directs the fax job to the appropriate printer(Young, figure 1).

In page 8, lines 8-29 of the remarks, the Applicant argues that "there is no mention whatsoever of a user interface associated with a printer."

In response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant. The claim language merely states a user interface associated with a printer. It does not state a user interface that is part of the printer. So, all that is needed to reasonably establish the claim limitation is a user interface that has an effect on the printer. In fact, Young teaches such a user interface. Column 3, lines 35-40 of Young teaches a pre-determined telephone number that is associated to a printer. The existence of a pre-determined telephone number inherently teaches a user interface that is part of the

service provider 110; this assumption is based on the fact that some type of user

interface is needed to input the pre-determined telephone number. While such a user

interface is not directly part of the printer, it is still associated with the printer. After all,

the actions implemented at the user interface come to fruition at the printer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Young(U.S. 6,898,624).

Regarding claim 1, Young teaches a method for providing printing services,

comprising: assigning a telephone number to a printer(**Column 3, lines 21-25 and

column 3, lines 35-42 teach a method that assigns a phone number to a printer**);

associating a print job with said telephone number(**Column 3, lines 45-55 discloses

that a fax transmission data is mapped to a telephone number. This fax

transmission data reads on the print job stated in the claim language.**); forwarding

said print job from a print job source to a spooling server over a network(**Column 3,

lines 5-10 and figure 1 teach that a fax data is transmitted to a service provider

110 that is connected to a printer 114 via a network 112.**); associating the print job

with the printer at the spooling server based on said telephone number(**Column 3, lines 45-55 and column 3, lines 58-65 teach that a print job or fax data is associated with a printer**); forwarding the print job from the spooling server to the printer; and printing said print job at said printer. (**Column 4, lines 45-64 teaches the output step itself.**)

Regarding claim 2, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein: said print job source comprises a facsimile machine(**Figure 1 illustrates a facsimile 104 that is sent from a fax machine**); and the telephone number is associated with the print .job by entering the telephone number at the facsimile machine. (**Column 3, lines 10-15 discusses a predetermined phone number. The existence of a predetermined phone number implies the concept of entering a phone number at the facsimile machine.**)

Regarding claim 3, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job source is one of a computer, a personal digital assistant device, a multifunction print device, an Internet appliance, a scanner, or a telephone. (**Column 3, lines 7-10 teaches that the source of the original fax or print job could be a personal computer.**)

Regarding claim 4, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the network comprises: at least one of a local area network, a wide area network, a global network, and the Internet. (**Column 2, lines 60-67 teaches an internet 112.**)

Regarding claim 5, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein: said print job source comprises a facsimile machine(**Column 3, lines 5-10**

teaches that a fax 104 originates from a fax machine); said print job comprises a

facsimile(**fax 104 mentioned in column 3, lines 5-10**); and said network comprises the

Internet(**Internet 112 mentioned in column 2, lines 60-67**).

Regarding claim 6, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 5, further

comprising: receiving the facsimile from the facsimile machine at a facsimile server via

the network(**Service provider 110, illustrated in figure 1, reads on the facsimile**

server.); assigning the telephone number to the printer at the facsimile server(**Mapping**

table 118, illustrated in figure 1, assigns a print job with a phone number to a

specific printer.); and forwarding the facsimile to the spooling server from the facsimile

server. (**Embedded web server 116 that spools a print job to a specific printer**

reads on the spooling server.)

Regarding claim 7, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 6,

wherein: said facsimile server forwards the facsimile to the spooling server using one of

Simple Mail Transport Protocol, Simple Object Access Protocol, Extensible Markup

Language, Hypertext Transfer Protocol, or Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure. (**HTTP**

is taught in column 3, lines 1-5.)

Regarding claim 8, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1, wherein

the printer is connected to the network via a dedicated Internet connection. (**Figure 1**

teaches internet 112. This, in turn, inherently teaches that the printer 114 is

connected to the network via an internet connection.)

Regarding claim 9, Young teaches a method in accordance with claim 1,

wherein: said print job is stored at said spooling server based on said telephone

number(**Column 3, lines 40-55 teaches that a job is stored based on the correspondence between the job and phone number.**); said telephone number is dynamically assigned to the printer at a user interface associated with said printer; and said printer requests said print job from said spooling server based on the assigned telephone number. (**Mapping table 118, illustrated in figure 1, assigns a print job with a phone number to a specific printer, and the outputting of data is carried out in accordance with this assignment.**)

Regarding claim 10, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 1. Note that claim 10 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 1.

Regarding claim 11, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 2. Note that claim 11 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 2.

Regarding claim 12, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 3. Note that claim 12 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 3.

Regarding claim 13, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 4. Note that claim 13 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 4.

Regarding claim 14, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 5. Note that claim 14 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 5.

Regarding claim 15, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 6. Note that claim 15 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 6.

Regarding claim 16, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 7. Note that claim 16 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 7.

Regarding claim 17, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 8. Note that claim 17 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 8.

Regarding claim 18, it is rejected in the same manner as claim 9. Note that claim 18 describes a system that corresponds to the method divulged in claim 9.

Conclusion

3.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ASHISH K. THOMAS whose telephone number is (571)272-0631. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ashish K Thomas/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

/David K Moore/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625